



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**

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J. TYLER McCAULEY
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

WENDY L. WATANABE
CHIEF DEPUTY

November 8, 2007

TO: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: J. Tyler McCauley *JTM*
Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **GROUP HOME PROGRAM MONITORING REPORT – FRED
JEFFERSON MEMORIAL HOME FOR BOYS, INCORPORATED -
DENKER AND COMPTON GROUP HOMES**

We have completed a review of Denker and Compton Group Homes (Group Home or Agency) operated by Fred Jefferson Memorial Home for Boys, Incorporated. Each Group Home contracts with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department (Probation).

Denker and Compton Group Homes are each six-bed facilities, which provide care for boys ages 11-17 years who exhibit behavioral, social and emotional difficulties. At the time of the monitoring visit, Denker Group Home was providing services for four DCFS children. Compton Group Home was providing services for five DCFS children.

Both Group Homes are located in the Second District.

Scope of Review

The purpose of the review is to determine whether the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. Additionally, the review covers basic child safety and licensing issues and includes an evaluation of the Agency's Program Statement, internal policies and procedures, child case records, a facility inspection and interviews with children placed in the Group Home at the time of the review.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

Interviews with children are designed to obtain their perspectives on the program services provided by the Agency and to ensure adherence to the Foster Youth Bill of Rights.

Summary of Findings

Generally, the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. The Agency needs to address a few deficient areas.

Both Group Homes need to develop comprehensive Needs and Services Plans that include short term goals. This issue was also noted in the last Program Monitoring Report dated March 6, 2007.

Denker Group Home needs to maintain current court authorizations for all children taking psychotropic medication. This issue was also noted in the last Program Monitoring Report dated March 6, 2007.

Compton Group Home needs to replace the carpet in the den and children's bedrooms.

Attached is a detailed report of the review.

Review of Report

We discussed our report with the Agency's management. In response to the recommendations made in the report, the Agency's management completed a corrective action plan (attached) which we approved. We thank the management and staff for their cooperation during our review.

If you have any questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Don Chadwick at (626) 293-1102.

JTM:MP:CC:jdh

Attachments

c: William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer
Patricia S. Ploehn, Director, DCFS
Susan Kerr, Chief Deputy, Director, DCFS
Robert B. Taylor, Chief Probation Officer
Cecilia Jefferson, Executive Director, Fred Jefferson Memorial Homes
Public Information Office
Audit Committee

**Fred Jefferson Memorial Home for Boys, Incorporated
Denker Group Home
Los Angeles, California 90047
License Number: 198201547
Rate Classification Level: 10**

I. Facility and Environment

Method of assessment – Observation

Comments:

Denker Group Home is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean and adequately landscaped.

The interior of the Group Home is well maintained. The common quarters are neat and clean. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

The Group Home maintains age-appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

II. Program Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children meet the Group Home's population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. Children are assessed for needed services within thirty days of placement.

The treatment team develops and implements the Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) with input from the child and the NSPs are current. However, the NSPs are not comprehensive and do not include short term goals.

Case files reflect adequate documentation to show that children are receiving treatment services.

Recommendation

1. Fred Jefferson Memorial Home for Boys management develop comprehensive Needs and Services Plans that are specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, time limited and include short term goals.

III. Educational and Emancipation Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children are attending school. Children are provided with educational support and resources to meet their educational needs and are progressing satisfactorily in school. The Group Home's program includes the development of children's daily living, self-help and survival skills.

Children are provided with opportunities to participate in emancipation and vocational programs as appropriate.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

IV. Recreation and Activities

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

The Group Home provides children with sufficient recreational activities and leisure time. Children are provided with opportunities to participate in planning activities. Children also participate in extra-curricular, enrichment and social activities in which they have an interest.

The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

V. Psychotropic Medication

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents

Comments:

Documentation confirms that children are routinely seen by the prescribing psychiatrist. However, one child does not have a current court authorization for the psychotropic medication that he is taking.

Children are informed about their psychotropic medication and are aware of their right to refuse medication. Medication distribution logs are properly maintained.

Recommendation

- 2. Fred Jefferson Memorial Home for Boys management maintain current court authorizations for all children taking psychotropic medications.**

VI. Personal Rights

Method of assessment – Interviews with children

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children are informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. Children report that they feel safe in the Group Home and are provided with appropriate staff supervision. Children express satisfaction with the quality of their interactions with staff and report that the staff treats them with respect and dignity.

Children report that they are assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. Children are allowed to make and receive personal telephone calls, send

and receive unopened mail and have private visitors. Children attend religious services of their choice.

Children report that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

Children report satisfaction with meals and snacks.

Children receive voluntary medical, dental and psychiatric care.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

VII. Clothing and Allowance

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

The Group Home provides appropriate clothing, items of necessity and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to children. Children are provided with opportunities to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to children is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

The Group Home provides children with the required minimum weekly allowance. Children spend their allowances as they choose.

The Group Home provides children with adequate personal care items. Children are also encouraged and assisted in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

**Fred Jefferson Memorial Home for Boys, Incorporated
Compton Group Home
Compton, California 90220
License Number: 198200050
Rate Classification Level: 10**

I. Facility and Environment

Method of assessment – Observation

Comments:

Compton Group Home is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean and adequately landscaped.

Generally, the interior of the Group Home is well maintained. The common quarters are neat. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment. However, the carpet in the den and children's bedrooms is stained, worn and not properly installed.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are orderly and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

The Group Home maintains age-appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

Recommendation

- 1. Fred Jefferson Memorial Home for Boys management replace the carpet in the den and children's bedrooms.**

II. Program Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children meet the Group Home's population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. Children are assessed for needed services within thirty days of placement.

The treatment team develops and implements the Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) with input from the child and the NSPs are current. However, the NSPs are not comprehensive and do not include short term goals.

Case files reflect adequate documentation to show that children are receiving treatment services.

Recommendation

- 2. Fred Jefferson Memorial Home for Boys management develop comprehensive Needs and Services Plans that are specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, time limited and include short term goals.**

III. Educational and Emancipation Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children are attending school. Children are provided with educational support and resources to meet their educational needs and are progressing satisfactorily in school. The Group Home's program includes the development of children's daily living, self-help and survival skills.

Children are provided with opportunities to participate in emancipation and vocational programs as appropriate.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

IV. Recreation and Activities

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

The Group Home provides children with sufficient recreational activities and leisure time. Children are provided with opportunities to participate in planning activities. Children also participate in extra-curricular, enrichment and social activities in which they have an interest.

The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

V. Psychotropic Medication

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents

Comments:

According to the Agency's management, there are currently no children taking psychotropic medications. This information is appropriately documented.

Children are aware of their right to refuse medication.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

VI. Personal Rights

Method of assessment – Interviews with children

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children are informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. Children report that they feel safe in the Group Home and are provided with appropriate staff supervision. Children express satisfaction with the quality of their interactions with staff and report that the staff treats them with respect and dignity.

Children report that they are assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. Children are allowed to make and receive personal telephone calls, send and receive unopened mail and have private visitors. Children attend religious services of their choice.

Children report that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

Children report satisfaction with meals and snacks.

Children receive voluntary medical, dental and psychiatric care.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

VII. Clothing and Allowance

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

The Group Home provides appropriate clothing, items of necessity and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to children. Children are provided with opportunities to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to children is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

The Group Home provides children with the required minimum weekly allowance. Children spend their allowances as they choose.

The Group Home provides children with adequate personal care items. Children are also encouraged and assisted in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

**Fred Jefferson Memorial Foster Family Agency
1330 S. Long Beach Blvd.
Compton, CA. 90221**

Phone # (310) 763-1660

Fax # (310) 763-0337

October 1, 2007

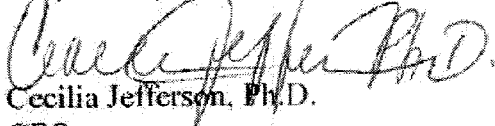
Candace Rhue
Group Home Audit Supervisor
Department of Auditor-Controller
Kenneth Hahn Administration
500 West Temple St., Room 515-A
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Ms. Rhue,

Please find attached the Corrective Action Plan for the Fred Jefferson Memorial
Homes For Boys.

If you need additional information please feel free to call me at the above number on
extension 121.

Respectfully Submitted,


Cecilia Jefferson, Ph.D.
CEO

**FRED JEFFERSON MEMORIAL HOMES FOR BOYS, INC.
DENKER GROUP HOME
9156 S. DENKER AVENUE
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90047
TELEPHONE: 323.820.1900
LICENSE NUMBER: 198201547
RATE CLASSIFICATION LEVEL: 10**

II. Program Services

The Fred Jefferson Memorial Homes for Boys treatment team will meet along with the resident to develop and implement needs and services plan that are comprehensive. The NSP will include short term goals that are attainable, realistic, and time limited. The psychologist will ensure that this correction is implemented and the clinical director will monitor to ensure continuous comprehensive NSPs are maintained.

V. Psychotropic Medication

The Fred Jefferson Memorial Homes for Boys management team will maintain current court authorizations for all children taking psychotropic medications. The facility manager will ensure that current authorizations are in place and the clinical director will monitor the correction to maintain current authorizations for psychotropic medication for each minor.

**FRED JEFFERSON MEMORIAL HOME FOR BOYS, INC.
COMPTON GROUP HOME
1000 WEST 152ND STREET
COMPTON, CALIFORNIA 90220
PHONE: 310.609.1166
LICENSE NUMBER: 198200050
RATE CLASSIFICATION: LEVEL 10**

I. Facility and Environment

The carpet in the boys' bedrooms and the den will be replaced by October 31, 2007. The facility manager will ensure that the carpet is replaced and the administrator will ensure the correction is implemented as well as facility good condition is maintained.

II. Program Services

The Fred Jefferson Memorial Homes For Boys treatment team will meet along with the resident to develop and implement needs and services plans that are comprehensive. The NSP will include short term goals that are attainable, realistic, and time limited. The psychologist will ensure that this correction is implemented and the clinical director will monitor to ensure continuous comprehensive NSPs are maintained.